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7. Abstract

The invention relates to a system and method for autonomously setting up a base station. The new base station monitors signals from other base stations to determine how it relates to the other base stations. Next, the base station forms and transmits a list of other base stations with suggested handoff rankings to other base stations. Embodiments include source assisted soft handoff including the source base station requesting and forwarding information to mobile stations being handed off to a target base station.